

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 166

February 5, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Revises the offense of aggravated cruelty to animals.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-14-212(b)(1), aggravated cruelty means conduct which is done or carried out in a depraved and sadistic manner and which tortures or maims an animal, including the failure to provide food and water to a companion animal resulting in a substantial risk of death or death.
- The proposed legislation removes the definition of aggravated cruelty and specifies that a person commits aggravated animal cruelty when, with no justifiable purpose, the person knowingly kills, maims, tortures, drowns, suffocates, mutilates, starves, or otherwise causes serious physical harm to a companion animal.
- Based on information from the Department of Correction there has been an average of three aggravated cruelty to animals admissions over the past five years.
- Any impact to state incarceration resulting from revising the offense of aggravated cruelty to animals is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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